



Fish and Wildlife Conservation

How Fish and Wildlife Dollars Are Used in Your Backyard

Fond du Lac County

County characteristics

- 727 sq. mi.; 70% agriculture, 15% wetland and 7% woodland
- 97,833 residents live in Fond du Lac County
- Land: East 1/3 farmland/woodland; west 2/3 former prairie/oak savanna, now farmland with glacial wetlands scattered throughout
- Waters: 34 lakes, including parts of Rush Lake & Lake Winnebago, plus many warm-water streams.
- Trends - Experiencing rapid residential/urban growth due to proximity to the Fox Valley



Mullet Creek Wildlife Area

State Land Open to Hunting and Fishing

- 24,150 acres; Eldorado and Mullet Creek Wildlife Areas, Glacial Habitat Restoration Area parcels and Northern Unit-Kettle Moraine State Forest.
- 29,850 Acres of public water

Locate DNR properties at:

http://www.dnr.wi.gov/org/land/facilities/dnr_land_mapping.html

Fish, Wildlife & Law Enforcement Staff serving you

- 2 Wildlife Biologists; 1 Wildlife Technician;
- 3 Fisheries Biologists; 2 Fisheries Technicians
- 3 Conservation Wardens;
- 2 Customer Service Staff
- Office: 625 E. Co. Rd. 'Y', Oshkosh, 54901
Staff also serve portions of Green Lake, Dodge, Calumet, Outagamie, Waushara, Waupaca, Shawano and Winnebago counties.

Activities Funded by Your Hunting and Fishing Dollars

- Establish and maintain grassland and wetland habitat for waterfowl, wild pheasants, wild turkey and other wildlife species.
- Established the Glacial Habitat Restoration Area in 1991. This 530,000-acre project seeks to preserve, enhance and restore 38,600 grassland acres and 11,000 wetland acres across portions of Winnebago, Fond du Lac, Dodge and Columbia Counties through land acquisition and partnerships with conservation groups.
- Manage 2,200 flowage acres for waterfowl production and moist-soil plant seed production for waterfowl nutrition needs.
- Manage DNR land by posting public hunting, access sites, closed areas as well as, building and maintaining parking areas.
- Monitor local wildlife populations of ducks, geese, pheasants, grouse, deer, frogs, grassland birds, mourning doves, osprey, and river otter.
- Provide educational programs for schools, conservation organizations and civic groups.

Activities continued...

- Manage Winnebago System fisheries including lake sturgeon, walleye, white bass, northern pike, yellow perch and sauger. Lake Winnebago is home to the largest lake sturgeon population and fishery in the world and one of the best walleye fisheries in the United States.
- Restore fish and wildlife habitat on the Winnebago pool lakes. Since 1993, over 2,000 acres of deepwater wetlands have been protected and restored along with the associated fisheries through the construction of offshore breakwaters and carp barriers to develop and protect critical aquatic habitat areas.
- Work closely with the public to manage the county's fisheries and aquatic resources through advisory committees established for sturgeon, walleye and flathead catfish.
- Involved with over 50 enforcement cases related to overbagging on walleye and sauger on the Lake Winnebago System.
- Develop and maintain an "Adopt-a-Public Area" program with Fond du Lac County Sports Groups for clean up of the Eldorado Wildlife Area.

Fond du Lac County Conservation Snapshots

- 18** Boat Launch Sites
- 21** ALIS Agents supported
- 7** Deer/Turkey Registration Stations
- 33** Stream Access Sites



Fish & Wildlife Stocking Summary

Fish stocking since 2000 in Fond du Lac County waters or Lake Winnebago:

- 2,000 Brook Trout, 2,608 Brown Trout, 240,000 Northern Pike, 248,744 Walleye, 2,550,569 Sauger
- 1,500 rooster pheasants fall-stocked in 2 wildlife areas
- 2,400 pheasants raised by Two Day-old chick clubs

County Success Stories

- Over the last 30 years, partnership efforts of the DNR, USFWS and local conservation organizations resulting in 24,150 acres of wildlife habitat and recreational land for public use
- The wild turkey reintroduction program started in 1989 today is a healthy, huntable population countywide. Partnership with local Conservation Organizations with the Learn to Hunt Program for pheasant and wild turkey.

Statewide challenges to maintaining your hunting and fishing opportunities

- Without a fee increase as proposed by Governor Doyle, the Department of Natural Resources will be forced make numerous cuts in:
 - Fish and wildlife stocking programs: Conservation law enforcement; Public hunting acres; Fish and wildlife field biologists and Customer services
- Keeping upland, shoreline and aquatic habitat intact and functional
- Multiple user conflicts - Increasing pressure on public lands
- Rapid growth – urban sprawl
- Nuisance wildlife and invasion by non-native species
- Disease management